

Concrete alliance: On the BRICS grouping and its expansion

BRICS found new purpose with its **expansion**, but also more **contradictions**

If there was any doubt about the **relevance** of the BRICS grouping (Brazil-Russia-India-China-South Africa), which held its 15th Summit in Johannesburg this week, the massive global interest in its **outcomes** should have **put those to rest**. Ever since the grouping, **set up** as a **coalition** of emerging **economies**, said last year that it was open to new members, as many as 40 countries from **the global south** have **evinced** interest in joining, with at least 22 formal applications. The **decision** to more than double its membership **overnight**, from 5 to 11, by **inducting** four major middle eastern players, Egypt, Iran, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates, as well as Ethiopia and Argentina, from Africa and South America, respectively, **is** significant. The **enthusiasm** is **obvious**. BRICS has **weathered** **several storms** and is today seen, if not as any alternative, as a **counter-narrative** creator to the western-led G-7 club on **diverse** issues: from climate change **commitments** and UN reform to its rejection of **unilateral** western **sanctions** against Iran, Russia and Venezuela. By also creating the New Development Bank, which has funded nearly 100 projects **so far**, **instituting** a **Contingent Reserve Arrangement**, and other institutional **mechanisms**, the BRICS countries have also shown their ability to work on practical initiatives. While the grouping may not yet **rival** the wealth of the G-7, it does now rival its share of the global GDP (approximately 30% each), and represents a more equitable representation across 40% of the world's population to the G-7 countries that **make up** just 10%. Once the new members join, six of 10 of the biggest global oil suppliers will be BRICS countries, giving BRICS new **heft** in the field of energy.

While the **battle** of proving its **raison d'être** **may** have been **substantially** won, the BRICS countries still **fall short** in showing a **coherence** of purpose, and are still **mired** by inner contradictions. The **rivalry** between India and China **has** no doubt slowed the grouping down and the **induction** of **arch rivals** Iran and Saudi Arabia-UAE, despite their recent **détente**, **could** well create similar issues for the group in the future. **In addition**, any **overtly** political, anti-western **stance** by BRICS will make India, and other countries in the grouping who **walk a tightrope** between the global powers, including Egypt, the UAE, Saudi Arabia and Brazil, uncomfortable. Russia's **invasion** of Ukraine too has caused **uneasiness**, and BRICS members did not vote as a bloc on any of the UN votes; nor did any of the other members support Russia's actions. **Above all**, any attempts by China to **overpower** the group with its **strategic** or economic vision will require a **firm pushback** if the foundational idea of BRICS, to **assert** the **strategic autonomy** of its members, is to be followed. **Eventually** it is the promise of shared **prosperity** and a more democratic model of global governance that attracts so many in the global south to the grouping, and will provide the **mortar** for an **expanded line-up** of BRICS countries.

- Red/blue coloring of words in the sentence indicates subject verb relationship; where 'red' denotes 'subject' and 'blue' denotes 'verb'. [Practice Exercise]
- **Uneasiness** (noun) – Nervousness, restlessness, unease, disquiet, discomfort, व्याकुलता

Vocabulary

1. **Concrete** (adjective) – substantial, definite, tangible, real, actual, solid, ठोस
2. **Alliance** (noun) – association, union, bloc, partnership. गठबंधन
3. **BRICS** (noun) – BRICS, originally named BRIC (Brazil, Russia, India, China), is an acronym for the regional economies of Brazil, Russia, India and China, which in 2010 had included the letter S for South Africa. The original acronym "BRIC" (or "the BRICs") was coined in 2001 by Goldman Sachs economist Jim O'Neill, who created the term to describe fast-growing economies that would collectively dominate the global economy by 2050.
4. **Expansion** (noun) – growth, increase, extension, enlargement विस्तार
5. **Contradiction** (noun) – inconsistency, discrepancy, disparity, conflict, विरोध/विरोधाभास
6. **Relevance** (noun) – pertinence, applicability, significance, importance, प्रासंगिकता
7. **Outcome** (noun) – result, consequence, upshot, aftermath, परिणाम
8. **Put to rest** (phrase) – dispel, finish, settle, bring to a close समाप्त करना
9. **Set up** (phrasal verb) – establish, start, initiate, form, स्थापित करना
10. **Coalition** (noun) – alliance, partnership, union, amalgamation, गठबंधन
11. **Economies** (noun) – Countries in terms of GDP.
12. **The Global South** (noun) – term generally used to identify countries and regions in the regions of Latin America, Africa, Asia and Oceania. विकासशील देश
13. **The Global North** (noun) – The Global North includes the rich and powerful regions such as North America, Europe, and Australia.
14. **Evince** (verb) – display, show, exhibit, reveal, प्रदर्शित करना
15. **Overnight** (adverb) – suddenly, instantly, immediately, रात भर में
16. **Induct** (verb) – To admit as a member दाखिल करना
17. **Enthusiasm** (noun) – eagerness, zeal, fervor, passion, उत्साह
18. **Obvious** (adjective) – clear, apparent, evident, manifest, स्पष्ट
19. **Weather storm** (phrase) – survive difficulty, endure challenges, कठिन परिस्थिति से निपटना
20. **Counter-narrative** (adjective) – opposing story, contrasting viewpoint.
21. **Diverse** (adjective) – varied, differing, distinct, multifaceted, विविध

22. **Commitment** (noun) – responsibility, onus, liability, accountability, obligation, engagement. प्रतिबद्धता
23. **Unilateral** (adjective) – one-sided, individual, single-handed, एकपक्षीय
24. **Sanctions** (noun) – a threatened penalty for disobeying a law or rule. प्रतिबंध
25. **So far** (phrase) – until now, up to this point, अब तक
26. **Institute** (verb) – establish, inaugurate, initiate, स्थापित करना
27. **Contingent Reserve Arrangement** (noun) – a framework for the provision of support through liquidity and precautionary instruments in response to actual or potential short-term balance of payments pressures. It was established in 2015 by the BRICS countries: Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.
28. **Mechanism** (noun) – procedure, system, method, तंत्र
29. **Rival** (noun) – competitor, opponent, challenger, प्रतिद्वंद्वी
30. **Make up** (phrasal verb) – constitute, form, comprise, गठन करना
31. **Heft** (noun) – weight, significance, influence, प्रभाव, रसूख
32. **Raison d'être** (noun) – reason for existence, purpose, justification, होने की वजह
33. **Substantially** (adverb) – considerably, significantly, largely, काफी हद तक
34. **Fall short of** (phrase) – fail to meet, not reach, lack, अधूरा रह जाना
35. **Coherence** (noun) – consistency, logical connection, unity, संगतता
36. **Mire** (verb) – entangle, embroil, ensnare, दलदल में फंसाना
37. **Induction** (noun) – introduction, initiation, installation, प्रवेश
38. **Arch rivals** (noun) – the chief rival of a person, team, or organization. कट्टर प्रतिद्वंद्वी
39. **Détente** (noun) – the easing of hostility or strained relations, especially between countries. अमन (देशों के बीच में)
40. **In addition** (phrase) – furthermore, moreover, also, इसके अलावा
41. **Overtly** (adverb) – openly, plainly, clearly, स्पष्ट रूप से
42. **Stance** (noun) – position, posture, attitude, दृष्टिकोण/ रुख
43. **Walk a tightrope** (phrase) – to deal with a difficult situation, especially one involving making a decision between two opposing plans of action कठिन परिस्थिति से निपटना
44. **Invasion** (noun) – attack, assault, incursion, आक्रमण

45. **Above all** (phrase) – most importantly, chiefly, primarily, especially सबसे महत्वपूर्ण रूप से constrained by other states, रणनीतिक स्वायत्तता
46. **Overpower** (verb) – gain control over, control, overwhelm, suppress, quell, quash परास्त करना, अभिभूत करना
47. **Strategic** (adjective) – planned, calculated, tactical, योजनाबद्ध
48. **Firm** (adjective) – resolute, determined, steadfast, स्थिर
49. **Pushback** (noun) – resistance, opposition, counteraction, प्रतिरोध
50. **Assert** (verb) – claim, profess, state, affirm, avow, insist. जोर देकर कहना
51. **Strategic autonomy** (noun) – the ability of a state to pursue its national interests and adopt its preferred foreign policy without being
52. **Eventually** (adverb) – in the end, finally, ultimately, आखिरकार
53. **Prosperity** (noun) – wealth, affluence, richness, समृद्धि
54. **Mortar** (noun) – a binding element, adhesive, जोड़ने वाला माध्यम
55. **Expanded** (adjective) – enlarged, extended, increased, विस्तृत
56. **Line-up** (noun) – a group of people that has been brought together to form a team or take part in an event कतार, तांता

Summary of the Editorial

1. The BRICS grouping held its 15th Summit in Johannesburg, underlining its global relevance.
2. There's been heightened interest in BRICS membership, with 40 countries expressing interest and 22 formal applications received.
3. BRICS decided to expand its membership from 5 to 11, adding Egypt, Iran, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Ethiopia, and Argentina.
4. The expansion signifies the group's role as a counter-narrative to the western-led G-7, especially on issues like climate change commitments, UN reform, and rejection of unilateral sanctions.
5. BRICS has established the New Development Bank, which has funded nearly 100 projects, and created a Contingent Reserve Arrangement.
6. Although the BRICS nations don't rival the G-7's wealth, they now match its share in global GDP (about 30%) while representing 40% of the world's population.
7. With the inclusion of new members, six out of the top ten global oil suppliers will be part of BRICS, enhancing its influence in the energy sector.
8. The BRICS group faces challenges in maintaining a coherent purpose due to internal contradictions.
9. Rivalries, such as between India and China, have hindered the group's effectiveness.
10. The addition of Iran and Saudi Arabia-UAE, despite their recent improved relations, might bring new tensions.
11. An overtly anti-western position by BRICS could cause discomfort for member countries that maintain balanced relationships with major global powers.
12. The group didn't present a united front during Russia's invasion of Ukraine, with member nations differing in their responses.
13. The group must ensure that China doesn't dominate its vision and direction, to maintain the strategic autonomy that's central to BRICS.
14. The allure of BRICS lies in its promise of shared prosperity and a more democratic model of global governance.
15. This promise will be crucial in binding the expanded BRICS membership and realizing its potential.

Practice Exercise: SSC Pattern Based

1. **Based on the passage, which of the following statements most accurately reflects the significance of the BRICS grouping's recent expansion?** [Editorial page]
 - A. The expansion of BRICS highlights its growing influence, adding major middle eastern countries and solidifying its position in the field of energy
 - B. BRICS expanded to include new members solely to rival the G-7's global GDP share.
 - C. BRICS expanded its membership primarily from the global north, reflecting a shift in economic power.
 - D. BRICS membership expansion was a result of internal economic pressures, compelling them to diversify their membership for survival.
2. **Which of the following statements is NOT true about the BRICS grouping?**
 - A. The BRICS grouping recently held its 15th Summit in Johannesburg.
 - B. The BRICS countries have established the New Development Bank that has funded over 200 projects to date.
 - C. Once the new members join, six out of ten of the world's largest oil suppliers will be part of the BRICS countries.
 - D. The BRICS grouping's share of the global GDP is approximately the same as that of the G-7.
3. **Which of the following statements best captures the challenges and potential of the BRICS grouping?**
 - A. The BRICS countries have a unified political stance against the western powers and support each other's political actions in international forums.
 - B. The rivalry between India and China is the sole challenge preventing the BRICS grouping from achieving its objectives.
 - C. The induction of arch rivals like Iran and Saudi Arabia-UAE could bring additional complexities, but the potential for shared prosperity and a democratic model of governance is the main attraction for many countries.
 - D. China's dominance in terms of its strategic and economic vision is fully supported by all BRICS members.
4. What does the word "**contradictions**" mean in the first paragraph?
 - A. Agreements
 - B. Similarities
 - C. Differences and conflicts
 - D. Cooperation
5. **What is the tone of the passage concerning the BRICS grouping and its expansion?**
 - A. Entirely critical
 - B. Optimistic
 - C. Neutral
 - D. Balanced, acknowledging both strengths and weaknesses
6. **What is the main theme of the passage?**
 - A. The decline of the BRICS grouping due to inner contradictions

- B. The comparison of the BRICS grouping with the G-7 club
 - C. The renewed significance of the BRICS grouping with its expansion and associated challenges
 - D. The dominance of China within the BRICS grouping
7. Select the option that can be used as a **one-word substitute** for the given group of words.

Sharpness and accuracy of judgment

- A. Experience
 - B. Estimation
 - C. Acumen
 - D. Knowledge
8. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom.**

Hold the key

- A. To own a property
 - B. To keep a secret
 - C. To have control of something
 - D. To have the right of succession
9. **The following sentence has been divided into parts. One of them may contain an error. Select the part that contains the error from the given options. If you don't find any error, mark 'No error' as your answer.**

My neighbour's grandson / is only / five month old.

- A. No error
 - B. My neighbour's grandson
 - C. is only
 - D. five month old
10. **Select the most appropriate meaning of the given idiom**
- Raj's decision to buy that luxury car cost him a fortune. He could've invested the money elsewhere.
- A. To pay very little
 - B. To spend a large amount of money
 - C. To decide quickly
 - D. To find a treasure

11. **Some sentences are given below. While the first and the last sentences (1 and 2) are in the correct order, the sentences in between are jumbled up. Arrange the sentences in the correct order to form a meaningful and coherent paragraph**

- 1. Punjab is in the throes of devastating floods caused by the release of excess water from Bhakra and Pong dams.
- A. Heavy rain in neighbouring Himachal Pradesh, particularly in the catchment area of the two dams, has led to this perilous situation.
- B. The floods have turned the spotlight on the Dam Safety Act, 2021, which has provisions for surveillance, inspection, operation and maintenance of dams so as to ensure their safe functioning and prevent dam failure-related disasters.

- C. According to the Act, all dam owners — usually state governments and Central/state public sector undertakings — are supposed to establish a well-designed hydro-meteorological network and inflow forecasting system, besides an emergency warning system for probable flood-affected areas downstream of the dam.
- D. Questions are being raised about the discharge of water: Has it been well-timed and well-regulated? Could pre-emptive action have reduced the damage?
2. Every owner of a specified dam is expected to prepare an emergency action plan before allowing the initial filling of the reservoir and update it at regular intervals.
- A. BCAD B. ADBC C. ABCD D. BADC
- 12. Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**
- P. Doctors have unique ways of communication with others. Ostensibly, over the years of gruelling training, busy work schedules and imparting of certain ways of talking during their education, doctors have developed esoteric ways of communication.
- Q. Many doctors themselves find it difficult to understand the handwriting of other doctors leading to confusions and commotions.
- R. The moment it lands outside the realm of the doctor’s practice, it becomes an inscrutable document.
- S. Typical examples are their prescriptions and notes in the case sheets, which are often deciphered only by the doctor’s nurse or the local pharmacist.
- A. PSQR B. PSRQ C. SRQP D. PRQS
- 13. Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**
- P. There has been an overdose of news about all this all over!
- Q. I thought this was an exaggeration.
- R. “You can reach Mysore from Bangalore in 75 minutes.”
- S. Expressways, concrete roads, flyovers, metro, eight-lane highways and so on!
- A. RPQS B. RSPQ C. SRQP D. SPRQ
- 14. Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**
- P. Bhopal has become the first city in India to join the growing global movement on localisation of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Q. For Sustainable Development, which consists of 17 Sustainable Development Goals and 169 targets as a plan of action for ‘people’, ‘the planet’, and ‘prosperity’.
- R. In 2015, the 193 member-states of the United Nations adopted the 2030 Agenda.
- S. Following the release of its Voluntary Local Review (VLR).
- A. QSPR B. PSRQ C. QSRP D. PQSR
- 15. Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.**
- P. As Prime Minister Narendra Modi embarks on a week-long journey to Japan, Papua New Guinea and Australia from May 19, a number of substantive global issues are on the anvil
- Q. This is also a world that looks uneasily at facing the geopolitical challenge from China, worries over trade access, supply chain reliability, and food and energy security
- R. These mandate a very careful balance between the two ends of an increasingly polarised world that has been blown apart after the Russian war in Ukraine

S. In his discussions with leaders of the G-7 outreach in Hiroshima, Japan, as well as during his travels from there, with bilateral issues taking a back seat to India's position in the multilateral sphere

- A. QSPR B.PSRQ C.QSRP D.PQSR

16. Arrange the following sentences to form a coherent paragraph.

P. In 2018, I was in Ramallah, the de facto administrative capital of the Palestine Authority, to cover Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Palestine.

Q. A day after Mr. Modi wrapped up his visit, I prepared to leave the city. My flight was from Tel Aviv's Ben Gurion airport.

R. I had to call a taxi from Jerusalem to come and pick me up from Ramallah and drop me at Tel Aviv as taxi drivers in Ramallah are not allowed to go to Tel Aviv and Israeli taxis seldom come to Ramallah.

S. While leaving the West Bank for Tel Aviv, my driver, a Palestinian Arab from occupied East Jerusalem, warned me about the Israeli checkpoints on the way.

- A. QSPR B.PSRQ C.QSRP D.PQSR

Comprehension

The government's directive, last week, asking medicine manufacturers to abide by WHO standards, is a much-needed move. In less than a year, at least three serious adverse incidents have _____1_____ the country's reputation as a reliable source of inexpensive generics. In October 2022, more than 60 children in Gambia died after kidney complications, allegedly caused by cough syrups made by the Haryana-based Maiden Pharmaceuticals. Less than three months later, another cold remedy, manufactured by Marion Biotech in Noida, was blamed for the deaths of 19 children in Uzbekistan. In March, authorities in Cameroon _____2_____ a batch of cough medicines produced by an Indore-based firm for at least 12 fatalities. The WHO has regularly flagged concerns about the quality of Indian generics and _____3_____ found toxic content in seven Indian-made cough syrups. Surveys by Indian authorities have also revealed serious shortcomings in at least 160 pharma units. But the country's policymakers have _____4_____ on addressing regulatory loopholes.

Fill in the blanks with the most appropriate combinations of words

17. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 1.

- A. Dented
B. Prompted
C. Elucidated
D. Underscored

18. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 2.

- A. Incapacitated
B. Overhauled
C. Sabotaged
D. Incriminated

19. Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 3.

- A. Has
B. Have

- C. Have been
 - D. Has been
20. **Select the most appropriate option to fill in blank 4.**
- A. Blunt
 - B. Interceded
 - C. Predicted
 - D. Prevaricated

Answers

1. A 2.B 3.C 4. C 5. D 6. C 7. C 8.C 9.D 10.B 11.B
 12. B 13.D 14.B 15.B 16.D 17.A 18.D 19.A 20.D

[Practice Exercise]

Explanations

1. **A) The expansion of BRICS highlights its growing influence, adding major middle eastern countries and solidifying its position in the field of energy.**

The passage emphasizes that the BRICS grouping has expanded significantly by adding six new members, including four major middle eastern players. With this expansion, the grouping will now include six of the ten biggest global oil suppliers, enhancing its role and weight in the energy sector. While the passage mentions other facts about BRICS, such as its share of global GDP and population representation, the focus on its expansion, especially in relation to the energy domain, makes option A the most accurate reflection of the passage's main point.

2. **B) The BRICS countries have established the New Development Bank that has funded over 200 projects to date.**

The passage mentions that the New Development Bank, created by the BRICS countries, has funded nearly 100 projects so far. Option B, which states that the bank has funded over 200 projects, is incorrect based on the passage.

3. **C) The induction of arch rivals like Iran and Saudi Arabia-UAE could bring additional complexities, but the potential for shared prosperity and a democratic model of governance is the main attraction for many countries.**

The passage mentions various challenges faced by the BRICS grouping, including inner contradictions, rivalries between member countries, and the dominance of China. However, the passage also highlights that the main allure for many countries in joining BRICS is the "promise of shared prosperity and a more democratic model of global governance".

4. **C) Differences and conflicts**

"Contradictions" का अर्थ होता है असहमतियाँ या संघर्ष। इसका मतलब है कि जब दो या दो से अधिक बातें या विचार आपस में मेल नहीं खाते हैं या जब वे आपस में विरोधाभास पैदा करते हैं।

- "Contradictions" means disagreements or conflicts. It implies when two or more statements or ideas do not align with each other or when they create a discrepancy or opposition among them.

5. **D. Balanced, acknowledging both strengths and weaknesses**

Throughout the passage, the author mentions several positive aspects of the BRICS grouping, including its expansion and how it serves as a counter-narrative creator to the western-led G-7 club. However, the passage also discusses potential issues, such as the rivalry between member countries and inner contradictions. Thus, the tone is balanced, recognizing both the achievements and challenges faced by the BRICS grouping.

6. **C. The renewed significance of the BRICS grouping with its expansion and associated challenges**

The primary focus of the passage is the expansion of the BRICS grouping, its growing importance in the global arena, and the challenges it faces due to its expansion and internal dynamics. While the passage touches upon aspects like the comparison with the G-7 and the dominance of China, these are not the central themes of the passage.

7. C) **Acumen** – Sharpness and accuracy of judgment चतुराई
8. C) **Hold the key** (phrase) – To have control of something नियंत्रण होना
9. D) **five month old** के बदले **five months old** का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि 'five month old' एक predicate है जो subject के बारे में कुछ बताता है। इस मामले में, month के अंत में -s जोड़ना उचित और नियमित तरीका है।
10. B) **Cost someone a fortune** (phrase) – To be very expensive, cost a lot, break the bank, to spend a large amount of money बहुत महंगा पड़ना

11. B) **ADBC**

1ADBC2

1: The introduction speaks about a flood in PUNJAB due to release of water from certain dams. The cause for this flood would likely be the next logical step.

A: "this perilous situation" refers back to the floods mentioned in Sentence 1. This means Sentence A should come after Sentence 1.

D: After introducing the problem (flood) and its cause (heavy rain), it's logical to then discuss the questions or issues being raised because of the flood. Thus, Sentence D would naturally follow after Sentence A.

B: This sentence introduces the Dam Safety Act, 2021, which is abbreviated further in Sentence C as "the Act".

C: "the Act" refers back to the Dam Safety Act, 2021 mentioned in Sentence B. This means Sentence C should follow Sentence B.

2: This sentence elaborates on the responsibilities of dam owners as briefly introduced in Sentence C. Thus, it makes sense for it to come after all the other sentences, providing a conclusion about what's expected of dam owners.

12. B) **PSRQ**

P: This sentence introduces the idea that doctors have unique ways of communication that they have developed over the years.

S: The use of the word "Typical examples" immediately clues us in that this sentence is giving examples of the unique ways of communication mentioned in P. Thus, S logically follows P.

R: The pronoun "it" in R refers to the prescriptions and notes mentioned in S. "Inscrutable document" reinforces the idea that these prescriptions and notes are difficult to understand. Thus, R logically follows S.

Q: After discussing how prescriptions become inscrutable to outsiders (in R), this sentence extends the idea by saying even doctors themselves find it challenging to understand the

writings of their peers. The word "it" here refers back to the inscrutable documents mentioned previously. Thus, Q logically follows R.

13. **D) SPRQ**

S: This provides a list of infrastructural developments.

P: The "all this" in P refers to the list of infrastructural projects mentioned in S. Therefore, it makes sense for P to come after S.

R: After talking about the news overdose on infrastructural projects in P, R provides a specific claim or news piece about those developments. This particular order gives a flow to the information being presented.

Q: The "this" in Q is referring to the claim made in R, suggesting that the claim might be an exaggeration. This means that R should precede Q for the context to make sense.

14. **B) PSRQ**

P: Sentence P introduces that Bhopal has joined a global movement concerning the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

S: The VLR can be inferred as a report or documentation about how the city has been progressing or implementing SDGs. This gives the reason for Bhopal's decision in sentence P, so it's logical for S to come after P.

R: Sentence R talks about the year 2015 and mentions the adoption of the "2030 Agenda" by the United Nations member-states. The context of SDGs, which has been introduced in sentences P and S, is now extended by detailing when this global initiative began.

Q: After introducing the "2030 Agenda" in sentence R, sentence Q elaborates on what the agenda actually is, describing the number of goals and targets, and providing an idea of its comprehensive plan for "people", "the planet", and "prosperity". Thus, sentence Q is building on the information presented in R by providing a detailed description of the 2030 Agenda.

15. **B) PSRQ**

P: The first sentence (P) sets the context about Prime Minister Narendra Modi's journey, and it specifies the time ("from May 19") and the purpose ("a number of substantive global issues are on the anvil").

S: The phrase "In his discussions" from sentence S connects back to the journey mentioned in sentence P.

R: Sentence R does that by describing the "increasingly polarised world" and referencing a specific event, "the Russian war in Ukraine", which gives further context to the nature and gravity of the discussions.

Q: The beginning of sentence Q, "This is also a world", connects directly back to the world described in sentence R.

16. **D) PQSR**

P: This sentence provides a context for the entire sequence – the year 2018, the location (Ramallah), and the purpose of the visit (to cover PM Modi's visit).

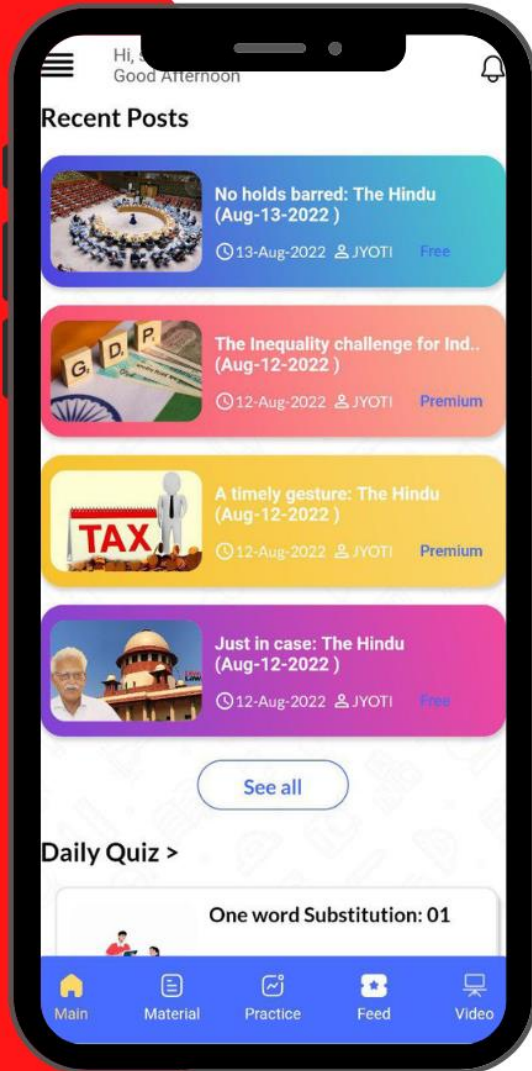
Q: This sentence is a direct continuation from P. It is referring to "Mr. Modi," which is clearly Prime Minister Narendra Modi from the first sentence. It is also establishing a time sequence – "A day after..."

S: This sentence refers to the logistics of leaving Ramallah to go to Tel Aviv, which continues from the intention to leave the city as mentioned in Q.

R: This follows R because it mentions the process of actually leaving (after calling the taxi).

17. A) 'Dented' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "dented" का अर्थ होता है किसी प्रतिष्ठा या छवि में नुकसान पहुंचाना। जबकि 'Prompted' का अर्थ है प्रेरित करना, 'Elucidated' का अर्थ है स्पष्टीकरण प्रदान करना, और 'Underscored' का अर्थ है महत्व देना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- 'Dented' should be used because it means to inflict damage or a reduction in the value, amount, or quality of something. Whereas, 'Prompted' means to cause or bring about, 'Elucidated' means to make clear, and 'Underscored' means to emphasize, which don't fit in this context.
18. D) 'Incriminated' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "incriminate" का अर्थ होता है अपराध में दोषी ठहराना या आरोपित करना। संदर्भ के अनुसार, Cameroon की प्राधिकृत ने उस दवा की खोज की जिससे कम से कम 12 मौतें हुईं। 'Incapacitated' का अर्थ है असमर्थ बना देना, 'Overhauled' का अर्थ है पुनः मूल्यांकन करना या सुधारना, 'Sabotaged' का अर्थ है जानबूझकर नुकसान पहुंचाना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- 'Incriminated' should be used because it means to charge with or show evidence of involvement in a crime. In the context, the authorities in Cameroon pointed to the medicine for causing at least 12 fatalities. 'Incapacitated' means to make unable or unfit, 'Overhauled' means to take apart in order to examine and repair, 'Sabotaged' means to deliberately destroy or disrupt, which are not appropriate in this context.
19. A) 'Has' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "The WHO" एक अकेला संगठन है और इसलिए उसके साथ singular verb का प्रयोग होता है। 'Have' plural number के लिए प्रयुक्त होता है, जबकि 'Have been' और 'Has been' इस संदर्भ में सही अर्थ नहीं प्रदान करते हैं क्योंकि इससे अनुमान लगाया जाएगा कि कुछ चीजें अभी भी चल रही हैं, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।
- 'Has' should be used because "The WHO" is a singular organization and thus, singular verb form should be used with it. 'Have' is used for plural number, while 'Have been' and 'Has been' don't provide the correct meaning as they would imply that something is ongoing, which isn't the case in this context.
20. D) 'Prevaricated' का प्रयोग होगा क्योंकि "prevaricated" का अर्थ होता है टाल-मटोल करना या स्पष्ट जवाब से बचना। दिए गए संदर्भ में, पॉलिसीमेकर्स ने समस्या का समाधान नहीं किया, जिससे यह शब्द सही फिट बैठता है। 'Blunt' का अर्थ होता है नीरस या सीधा, 'Interceded' का अर्थ होता है हस्तक्षेप करना, और 'Predicted' का अर्थ है भविष्यवाणी करना, जो इस संदर्भ में सही नहीं है।

- 'Prevaricated' should be used because it means to evade or sidestep a direct answer or action. In the given context, the policymakers have not addressed the issue, making this word a perfect fit. 'Blunt' implies being straightforward or dull, 'Interceded' means to intervene, and 'Predicted' means to forecast, which don't fit in this context.



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